GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:393
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2002
TRANSPORTATION COST OF FOODGRAINS
RATNA SINGH

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the procured foodgrains have to be transported to far off places for want of proper storage facilities; and

(b) if so, the necessary steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to construct godowns near the procurement centres?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a)&(b): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a)&(b) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO.393 DUE FOR ANSWER C
08-2002 IN THE LOK SABHA.

(a)&(b): The foodgrains procured in surplus areas of the country have to be transported to other areas in order to meet the requirements of the Public Distribution System and other welfare schemes of the Government, to create buffer stock of foodgrains and to create storage space in the procuring States in order to make procurement in the ensuing season.

The Food Corporation of India (FCI) has a Plan scheme for construction of godowns.The storage capacity proposed to be created by FCI under this scheme during the 10th Plan is 6.78 lakh tonnes.Additional storage capacity is also being created by FCI under its 7-Year Guarantee Scheme. Out of 85.47 lakh MTs storage capacity proposed to be constructed in Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Orissa, Punjab, Uttaranchal and Uttar Pradesh under the saidScheme, 36.73 lakh MTs storage capacity has already been realised. Further, under the National Policy on Handling, Storage and Transportation of Foodgrains, it is proposed to construct silos at different locations in Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu & West Bengalthrough private investment on Build Own Operate (BOO) basis.The total capacity of these silos would be 21 lakh MTs. Furthermore, godowns are also constructed by the Central Warehousing Corporation, State Warehousing Corporations and other State agencies, besides private parties, for storage of foodgrains.